

Remarks

1. Claims 4 and 7-25 are rejected as being indefinite.

Claims 4, 7-8, 11-13, 15 and 17-24 have been amended for clarification purposes only. Such amendments are not intended to provide any further claim limitations. It is believed the amended claims are not indefinite.

Claims 10, 16 and 25 have been cancelled, thereby rendering their rejection moot.

2. Claims 17-25 are rejected as being directed to non-statutory subject matter, because the method lacks a claimed technological nexus with the computing apparatus performing the step.

Applicant's are unaware of any statutory or judicially created requirement for such a technological nexus. Applicant's need and request further clarification from the Examiner as to where such a requirement is enumerated before Applicant's understand the rejection in order to respond adequately.

3. Claims 1, 2, and 6-9 are rejected as being anticipated by LoBiondo.

It is respectfully submitted that LoBiondo discloses an inventory tracking system for "consumable supplies, such as marking materials in the form of toners or inks, and recording media, such as paper sheets" and not the claimed inventory management system for components having a predictable lifetime.

LoBiondo therefore does not anticipate the claimed invention.

4. Claim 17 is rejected as being anticipated by Manchala.

It is respectfully submitted that Manchala fails to disclose or suggest calculating a predetermined life span of each of replaceable components, tracking the predicted life span of the replaceable components and managing inventory using the system for tracking.

Manchala therefore does not anticipate the claimed invention.

5. Claims 3-5 are rejected as obvious over LoBiondo in view of Manchala.

To make a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must show (i) some suggestion or motivation to combine the references, (ii) a reasonable expectation of success, and (iii) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

To this end, it is necessary to present evidence that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been led to combine the relevant teachings of the applied references in the proposed manner to arrive at the claimed invention. In the present case, the only suggestion for the proposed combination improperly stems from applicant's disclosure and not from the isolated teachings of LoBiondo and Manchala. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. Here, hindsight is relied upon to arrive at the determination of obviousness. It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Hindsight reconstruction cannot be used to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. In this case, the required suggestions supporting the modification and combination are missing from LoBiondo and Manchala.

While applicant's take issue with the proposed combination, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to combine the teachings of LoBiondo and Manchala as suggested, the claimed features still would not be met. Specifically, a piece of equipment having a plurality of components, each of the components having a predictable lifetime, an inventory of replacement parts for the components and an inventory manager for managing the inventory by tracking said predictable lifetime of the components through usage of said piece of equipment.

LoBiondo and Manchala therefore do not obviate the claimed invention.

6. Claims 10-14 and 16 are rejected as being obvious over LoBiondo in view of Nagira.

To make a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must show (i) some suggestion or motivation to combine the references, (ii) a reasonable expectation of success, and (iii) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

To this end, it is necessary to present evidence that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been led to combine the relevant teachings of the applied references in the proposed manner to arrive at the claimed invention. In the present case, the only suggestion for the proposed combination improperly

stems from applicant's disclosure and not from the isolated teachings of LoBiondo and Nagira. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. Here, hindsight is relied upon to arrive at the determination of obviousness. It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Hindsight reconstruction cannot be used to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. In this case, the required suggestions supporting the modification and combination are missing from LoBiondo and Nagira.

While applicant's take issue with the proposed combination, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to combine the teachings of LoBiondo and Nagira as suggested, the claimed features still would not be met. Specifically, a piece of equipment having a plurality of components, each of the components having a predictable lifetime, an inventory of replacement parts for the components and an inventory manager for managing the inventory by tracking said predictable lifetime of the components through usage of said piece of equipment.

LoBiondo and Nagira therefore do not obviate the claimed invention.

7. Claim 15 is rejected as being obvious over LoBiondo in view of Nagira, and further in view of Manchala..

To make a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must show (i) some suggestion or motivation to combine the references, (ii) a reasonable expectation of success, and (iii) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

To this end, it is necessary to present evidence that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been led to combine the relevant teachings of the applied references in the proposed manner to arrive at the claimed invention. In the present case, the only suggestion for the proposed combination improperly stems from applicant's disclosure and not from the isolated teachings of LoBiondo, Nagira and Manchala. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. Here, hindsight is relied

upon to arrive at the determination of obviousness. It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Hindsight reconstruction cannot be used to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. In this case, the required suggestions supporting the modification and combination are missing from LoBiondo, Nagira and Manchala.

While applicant's take issue with the proposed combination, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to combine the teachings of LoBiondo, Nagira and Manchala as suggested, the claimed features still would not be met. Specifically, a piece of equipment having a plurality of components, each of the components having a predictable lifetime, an inventory of replacement parts for the components and an inventory manager for managing the inventory by tracking said predictable lifetime of the components through usage of said piece of equipment.

LoBiondo, Nagira and Manchala therefore do not obviate the claimed invention.

8. Claims 18-21 are rejected as being obvious over Manchala in view of LoBiondo.

To make a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must show (i) some suggestion or motivation to combine the references, (ii) a reasonable expectation of success, and (iii) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

To this end, it is necessary to present evidence that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been led to combine the relevant teachings of the applied references in the proposed manner to arrive at the claimed invention. In the present case, the only suggestion for the proposed combination improperly stems from applicant's disclosure and not from the isolated teachings of Manchala and LoBiondo. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. Here, hindsight is relied upon to arrive at the determination of obviousness. It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Hindsight reconstruction

cannot be used to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. In this case, the required suggestions supporting the modification and combination are missing from Manchala and LoBiondo.

While applicant's take issue with the proposed combination, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to combine the teachings of Manchala and LoBiondo as suggested, the claimed features still would not be met. A method for inventory management a serviceable equipment item that has a plurality of replaceable components that are replaced from an inventory of the replaceable components, calculating a predetermined life span of each of the replaceable components within the serviceable piece of equipment, tracking the predicted life span of the replaceable components and managing the inventory using the tracking.

LoBiondo, Nagira and Manchala therefore do not obviate the claimed invention.

9. Claims 22, 24 and 25 are rejected as being obvious Manchala in view of LoBiondo and further in view of Nagira.

To make a prima facie case of obviousness, the Examiner must show (i) some suggestion or motivation to combine the references, (ii) a reasonable expectation of success, and (iii) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

To this end, it is necessary to present evidence that one having ordinary skill in the art would have been led to combine the relevant teachings of the applied references in the proposed manner to arrive at the claimed invention. In the present case, the only suggestion for the proposed combination improperly stems from applicant's disclosure and not from the isolated teachings of Manchala, LoBiondo and Nagira. The mere fact that the prior art may be modified in the manner suggested does not make the modification obvious unless the prior art suggests the desirability of the modification. Here, hindsight is relied upon to arrive at the determination of obviousness. It is impermissible to use the claimed invention as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious. Hindsight reconstruction cannot be used to pick and choose among isolated disclosures in the prior art to deprecate the claimed invention. In this case, the

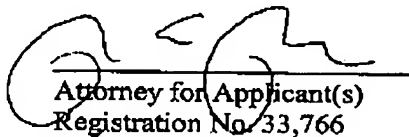
required suggestions supporting the modification and combination are missing from Manchala, LoBiondo and Nagira.

While applicant's take issue with the proposed combination, even if a person of ordinary skill in the art would find it obvious to combine the teachings of Manchala, LoBiondo and Nagira as suggested, the claimed features still would not be met. A method for inventory management a serviceable equipment item that has a plurality of replaceable components that are replaced from an inventory of the replaceable components, calculating a predetermined life span of each of the replaceable components within the serviceable piece of equipment, tracking the predicted life span of the replaceable components and managing the inventory using the tracking.

Manchala, LoBiondo and Nagira therefore do not obviate the claimed invention.

In lieu of the above it is believed that the remaining claims are in condition for allowance and allowance thereof is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.